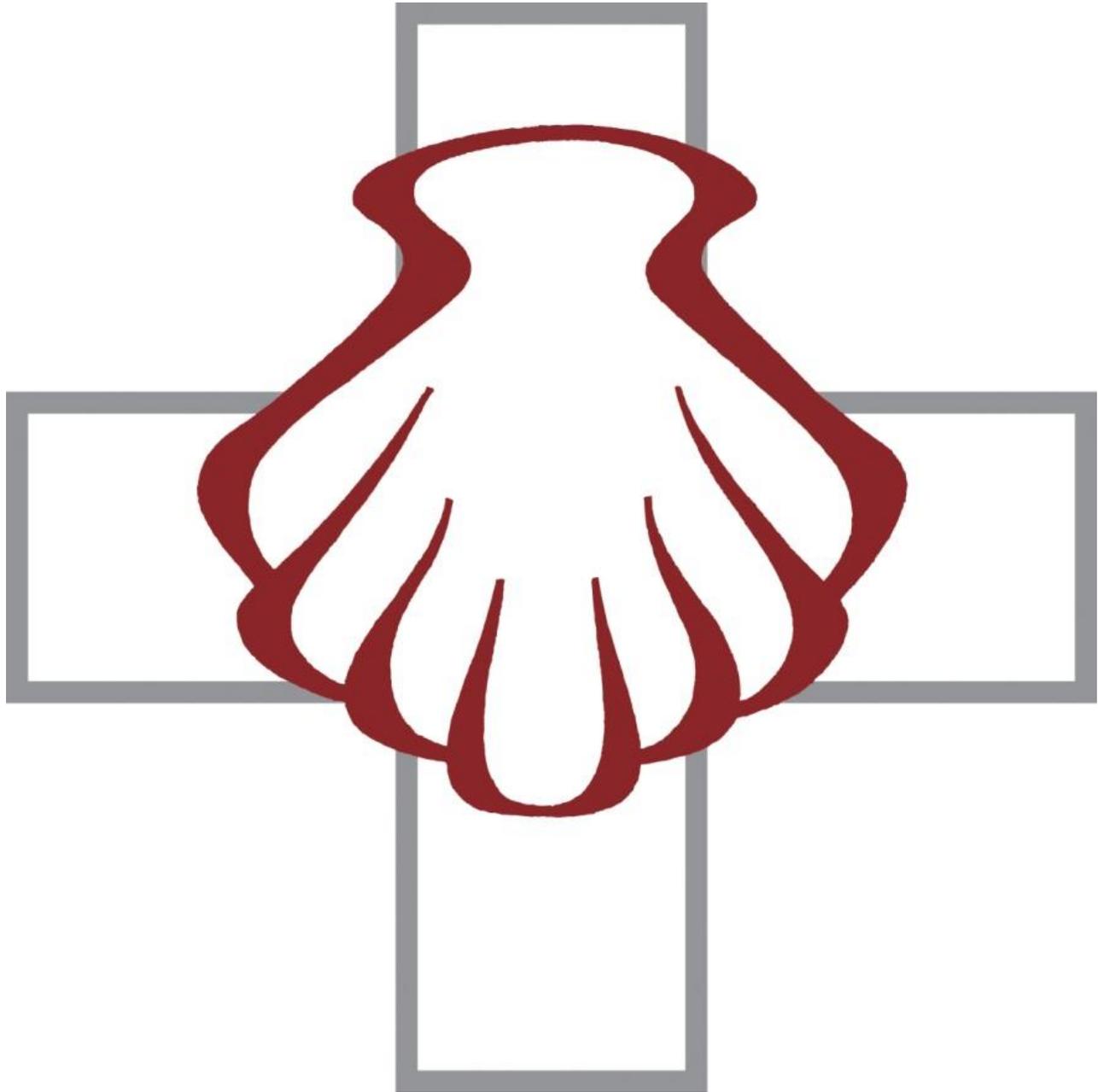


# The Baptism of Our Lord

January 7, 2018



**Holy Cross Evangelical Lutheran Church**

Lutheran Church Canada

322 East Avenue, Kitchener, Ontario N2H 1Z5 (519)742-5812 [www.holycrosskitchener.org](http://www.holycrosskitchener.org)

# The Baptism of Our Lord

8:30 & 11:00 am - Holy Communion Services

9:45 am - Sunday School & Bible Classes for All Ages

12:15 pm - Sunday School Teachers Epiphany Party

2:00 pm - Nuer Language Service

## Hymn

**Songs of Thankfulness and Praise** *LSB #394*

**Songs of thankfulness and praise, Jesus, Lord, to Thee we raise,  
Manifested by the star To the sages from afar,  
Branch of royal David's stem In Thy birth at Bethlehem:  
Anthems be to Thee addressed, God in man made manifest.**

**Manifest at Jordan's stream, Prophet, Priest, and King supreme;  
And at Cana wedding guest In Thy Godhead manifest;  
Manifest in pow'r divine, Changing water into wine;  
Anthems be to Thee addressed,  
God in man made manifest.**

**Manifest in making whole Palsied limbs and fainting soul;  
Manifest in valiant fight, Quelling all the devil's might;  
Manifest in gracious will, Ever bringing good from ill;  
Anthems be to Thee addressed, God in man made manifest.**

**Sun and moon shall darkened be, Stars shall fall, the heav'ns shall flee;  
Christ will then like lightning shine, All will see His glorious sign;  
All will then the trumpet hear, All will see the Judge appear;  
Thou by all wilt be confessed, God in man made manifest.**

**Grant us grace to see Thee, Lord, Present in Thy holy Word—  
Grace to imitate Thee now And be pure, as pure art Thou;  
That we might become like Thee At Thy great epiphany  
And may praise Thee, ever blest, God in man made manifest.**

## Invocation

*Pastor* In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

*People* **Amen.**

*Pastor* In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.

*People* **The voice of the Lord is over the waters.**

*Pastor* John appeared, baptizing in the wilderness and proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.

*People* **The voice of the Lord is over the waters.**

*Pastor* Beloved, all who are baptized into Christ have been buried with Him that we may also be united in a resurrection like His. Let us recall our Baptism and receive again the forgiveness of our sins.

*Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.*

*Pastor* Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

*People* **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

*Pastor* Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

*People* **Amen.**

## Hymn of Praise

## Arise Your Light has Come

**Arise, your light has come!  
The Spirit's call obey;  
Show forth the glory of your God  
which shines on you today**

**Arise, your light has come!  
Fling wide the prison door;  
proclaim the captive's liberty,  
good tidings to the poor.**

**Arise, your light has come!  
All you in sorrow born,  
bind up the broken hearted ones  
and comfort those who mourn.**

**Arise, your light has come!  
The mountains burst in song!  
Rise up like eagles on the wing,  
God's power will make us strong.**

**Old Testament Reading: Genesis 1:1-5**

<sup>1</sup> In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. <sup>2</sup> The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.

<sup>3</sup> And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. <sup>4</sup> And God saw that the light was good. And God separated the light from the darkness. <sup>5</sup> God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

*Pastor* This is the Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

**Epistle Reading: Ephesians 3:1-12**

<sup>3</sup> For this reason I, Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus on behalf of you Gentiles—  
<sup>2</sup> assuming that you have heard of the stewardship of God's grace that was given to me for you, <sup>3</sup> how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I have written briefly. <sup>4</sup> When you read this, you can perceive my insight into the mystery of Christ, <sup>5</sup> which was not made known to the sons of men in other generations as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit. <sup>6</sup> This mystery is that the Gentiles are fellow heirs, members of the same body, and partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel. <sup>7</sup> Of this gospel I was made a minister according to the gift of God's grace, which was given me by the working of his power. <sup>8</sup> To me, though I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given, to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ, <sup>9</sup> and to bring to light for everyone what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God, who created all things, <sup>10</sup> so that through the church the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. <sup>11</sup> This was according to the eternal purpose that he has realized in Christ Jesus our Lord, <sup>12</sup> in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through our faith in him.

*Pastor* This is the Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

**Anthem**

*(11:00 ~ Jack Kahl, Shari & Eden Keller)*

*"We Seek the Tiny King"*

*by Ruth Elaine Schram*

**Holy Gospel: St. Mark 1:4-11**

*Pastor* The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the first chapter.

*People* **Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>4</sup> John appeared, baptizing in the wilderness and proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. <sup>5</sup> And all the country of Judea and all Jerusalem were going out to him and were being baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

<sup>6</sup> Now John was clothed with camel's hair and wore a leather belt around his waist and ate locusts and wild honey. <sup>7</sup> And he preached, saying, "After me comes he who is mightier than I, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. <sup>8</sup> I have baptized you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

<sup>9</sup> In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. <sup>10</sup> And when he came up out of the water, immediately he saw the heavens being torn open and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. <sup>11</sup> And a voice came from heaven, "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased."

*Pastor* This is the Gospel of the Lord.

*People* Praise to You, O Christ.

## Hymn of the Day

To Jordan's River Came Our Lord *LSB #405*

To Jordan's river came our Lord,  
The Christ, whom heav'nly hosts adored,  
The God from God, the Light from Light,  
The Lord of glory, pow'r, and might.

The Savior came to be baptized—  
The Son of God in flesh disguised—  
To stand beneath the Father's will  
And all His righteousness fulfill.

As Jesus in the Jordan stood  
And John baptized the Lamb of God,  
The Holy Spirit, heav'nly dove,  
Descended on Him from above.

Then from God's throne with thund'rous sound  
Came God's own voice with words profound:  
"This is My Son," was His decree,  
"The one I love, who pleases Me."

The Father's word, the Spirit's flight  
Anointed Christ in glorious sight  
As God's own choice, from Adam's fall  
To save the world and free us all.

Now rise, faint hearts, be resolute;  
This man is Christ, our substitute!  
He was baptized in Jordan's stream,  
Proclaimed Redeemer, Lord supreme.

## Sermon

## "THE VOICE OF THE LORD"

## Psalm 29

- <sup>1</sup> Ascribe to the LORD, O heavenly beings  
ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.
- <sup>2</sup> Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name;  
worship the LORD in the splendor of holiness.
- <sup>3</sup> The voice of the LORD is over the waters;  
the God of glory thunders,  
the LORD, over many waters.
- <sup>4</sup> The voice of the LORD is powerful;  
the voice of the LORD is full of majesty....
- <sup>10</sup> The LORD sits enthroned over the flood;  
the LORD sits enthroned as king forever.
- <sup>11</sup> May the LORD give strength to his people!  
May the LORD bless his people with peace!

## Nicene Creed

*All* I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

## Prayer of the Church

## Parish Announcements and Gathering of Offering

## Service of Holy Communion

*Pastor* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Pastor* Lift up your hearts.

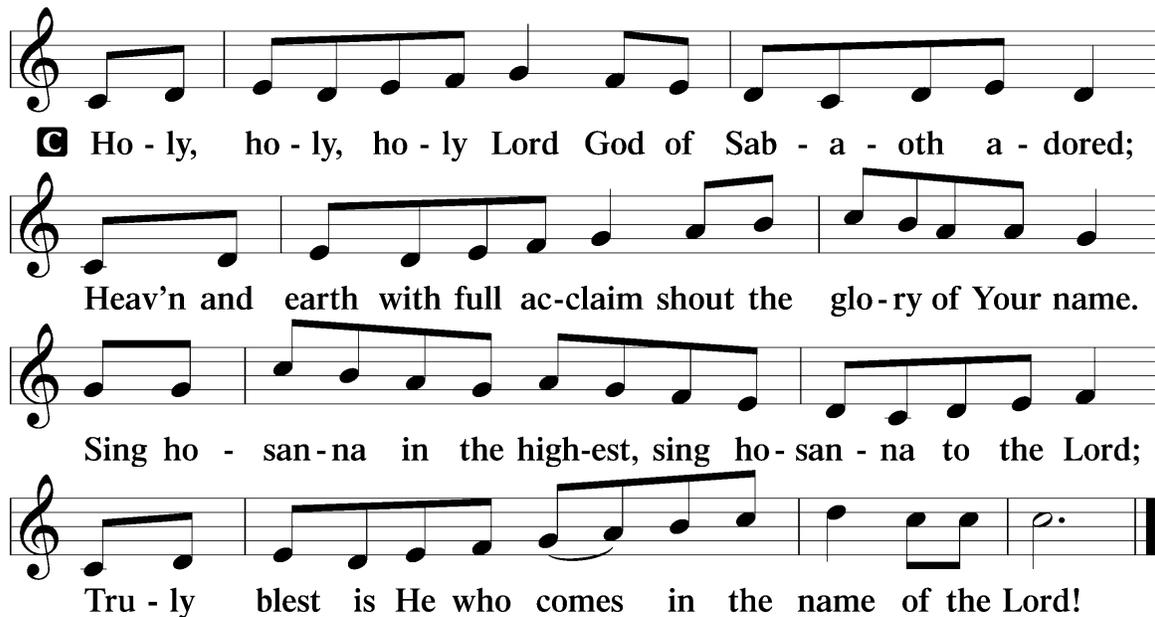
*People* **We lift them to the Lord.**

*Pastor* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*People* **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

*Pastor* It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for at His Baptism, Your voice from heaven revealed Him as Your beloved Son, and the Holy Spirit descended on Him, confirming Him to be the Christ. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

## Sanctus



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;  
 Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.  
 Sing ho - san - na in the high-est, sing ho - san - na to the Lord;  
 Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

## Prayer of Thanksgiving

*Pastor* Blessed are You, O Lord our God, King of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

By the Baptism of Your Son, You have sanctified and instituted all waters to be a blessed flood and a lavish washing away of sin. Baptized in His name, You have given us the forgiveness of sins and the faith that clings to Your promises of eternal life.

We give You thanks for the redemption You have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may faithfully eat and drink of the fruits of His cross and receive the blessings of forgiveness, life, and salvation that come to us in His body and blood.

*People* **Amen.**

## Words of Our Lord

*Pastor* Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

*Pastor* As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

*People* **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

## Lord's Prayer

*All* **Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

*Pastor* The peace of the Lord be with you always.

*People* **Amen.**

## Agnus Dei

1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
You take the sin of the world a - way;  
You take the sin of the world a - way;  
O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,  
Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.  
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

## Distribution Hymns

**Father Welcomes** *LSB #605*  
**Praise to the Lord the Almighty** *LSB #790*

## Post-Communion Thanksgiving

*Pastor* With thankful hearts, we give You praise, gracious Father, for renewing and strengthening our baptismal faith by Your Holy Spirit with the very body and blood of Your Son. Help us to live lives ordered by the power of Your Word; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

*People* **Amen.**

## Benediction

*Pastor* The Lord bless you and keep you.  
 The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
 The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

*People* **Amen.**

## Hymn

**Sent Forth By God's Blessing** *LSB #643*

**Sent forth by God's blessing,  
 Our true faith confessing,  
 The people of God from His dwelling take leave.  
 The Supper is ended.  
 O now be extended  
 The fruits of this service in all who believe.  
 The seed of His teaching,  
 Receptive souls reaching,  
 Shall blossom in action for God and for all.  
 His grace did invite us,  
 His love shall unite us  
 To work for God's kingdom and answer His call.**

**With praise and thanksgiving  
 To God ever-living,  
 The tasks of our ev'ryday life we will face.  
 Our faith ever sharing,  
 In love ever caring,  
 Embracing His children of each tribe and race.  
 With Your feast You feed us,  
 With Your light now lead us;  
 Unite us as one in this life that we share.  
 Then may all the living  
 With praise and thanksgiving  
 Give honor to Christ and His name that we bear.**

Officiant.....	Pastor Nolan Astley
Communion Assistants.....	Pastor Joe Das, Reinhold Schmidt (8:30) .....Pastors William Chuol, & Gary Weber, Rick Hutfloetz (11:00)
Organist.....	Jennifer Massicotte
Special Music.....	Jack Kahl ( <i>trumpet</i> )
Acolytes .....	Brigitte Bridgemohan, Bridget Coleman (8:30) .....Madison Freiter, Alarick Hildebrand (11:00)

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**Prayer Concerns:** In our prayers today we remember **Earl Millen** who has been in Cambridge Memorial Hospital and others who are undergoing treatments for infirmities of body, mind or spirit. We ask God's blessings upon our **Sunday School, Bible Classes and other ministries** as they gear up for the post-Christmas term. We also ask God to bless the transitions occurring in **Lutheran Church – Canada** in these days as President Bugbee and others leave office and **President Teuscher** and others begin or continue their service to our Synod.

Sunday School Staff Epiphany party is **today** after the late service.

## Today's Education Hour...

**YABS** This Sunday at YABS we will eat donuts, talk about the next few months, and also study Daniel 6. See you there at 9:45AM!

**Youth Bible Class** will meet with Marj who's teaching the Study of Revelation, topic being Interpretation and 4 Views.

**Adult Bible Class** will begin a study of Paul's letter to the Ephesians. This 6 chapter epistle focusses upon the victory of Christ and the unity of the church. It also touches on extremely practical matters such as marriage & family and workers & employers. Grab a coffee and join the conversation beginning at 10 am in the sanctuary.

## Coming Events...

**Parish Planning Council Meeting** will be held this **Wednesday January 10** at **7:30 p.m.**

**Officers and Board Directors**, your reports are due to the church office next **Sunday, January 14** so that the report can be prepared for the Voter's Assembly on **Sunday, January 28.**

**GriefShare** starts on **Monday January 15**, 6:30-8:30 pm and runs for 13 weeks.

GriefShare is a special weekly seminar/support group for people grieving the death of someone close. It's a place where you can be around others who understand how you feel and the pain of your loss. At GriefShare, you'll learn valuable information that will help you at this difficult time in your life. If now doesn't feel like the right time for you, you are welcome to join anytime. For more information, please contact Anita Syens at 519-896-7574.

**Jr & Sr Confirmation Classes begin again on Wednesday January 17 at 6:00 p.m.**

**Adult Information Classes** are again being offered and will begin **Sunday, January 21 from 6:30-8:30 pm** and continue for 9 weeks. If you are interested in joining our church or simply looking to review what it is we believe, please speak to one of our pastors about attending.

**Prime Timers** – Join Holy Cross' new 60+ group. We will be meeting on the last Thursday of the month, starting **January 25**. Join us **from 12:30-2:30 p.m.** for a simple meal, fellowship, and fun. Please sign up in the parlor before January 22.

## Please Note

**A New Photo Directory in 2018!** We want you to be a part of this new Photo Directory. All our members will receive a letter in late January with dates and how to make your photo appointment. See the bulletin boards for more information.



**Leaving a Lasting Legacy** *Proverbs 3:9 – 'Honour the Lord with your wealth, with the first fruits of all your crops'* Have you ever considered how you might leave a **lasting legacy** to the honour and glory of our Lord. God has blessed many in our church body and in response we are looking for ways to glorify God by giving back to him what he has provided us in abundance. For ideas on how you can leave a **lasting legacy** you can pick up the yellow brochure entitled "**LEAVING A LASTING LEGACY**" in the shelves in the narthex.

## Last Week at Holy Cross...

<b>Sunday Morning Attendance:</b>	96 & 173	Total	269	('16 – n/a)
<b>Sunday School:</b>	Pupils: 10 Staff: 8	Total	18	('16 – n/a)
<b>Mission Presentation:</b>	Pupils: 75 Staff: 1	Total	76	('16 – n/a)
	<i>*includes YA &amp; Youth</i>			
<b>New Year's Eve Attendance:</b>	93			('16– 100)
<b>New Year's Eve Communion:</b>	80			('16– 80)

**Memorials:** In memory of **RON SCHAUS** to Concordia Lutheran Seminary from Martha Schaus. In memory of **LOVED ONES** to the Unified Church Budget from Doreen Groff. In memory of **MR. & MRS. GEORGE KETKO, NANCY KOCH, ROGER SCHMITT, EWAN SCHAEFER** to the Organ Fund from Verica Ketko.

## Weekly Calendar

Monday January 8 to Sunday January 14, 2018

<b>Monday</b>	ESL, <i>Historic St. Paul's</i> .....	10:30 a.m.
<b>Wednesday</b>	Knotty Ladies, <i>Confirmation Classroom</i> .....	9:00 a.m.
	<b>Parish Planning Council</b> , <i>Church Library</i> .....	<b>7:30 p.m.</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	Beginnings, <i>Downstairs</i> .....	9:30 a.m.
	Prayer Group, <i>Church Library</i> .....	9:30 a.m.
	Praise Singers, <i>Church</i> .....	7:00 p.m.
	Church Choir, <i>Confirmation Classroom</i> .....	7:30 p.m.
<b>Friday</b>	Youth Activities, <i>Youth Centre</i> .....	7:00 p.m.
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>The Second Sunday after the Epiphany</b>	
	<b>Divine Service</b> , <i>Church</i> .....	<b>8:30 a.m.</b>
	Sunday School, <i>Church</i> .....	9:45 a.m.
	Adult Bible Class, <i>Church</i> .....	9:45 a.m.
	YABS, <i>Conference Room</i> .....	9:45 a.m.
	Youth Bible Class, <i>Youth Centre</i> .....	9:45 a.m.
	<b>Divine Service</b> , <i>Church</i> .....	<b>11:00 a.m.</b>
	<b>Slovak Congregation Service</b> , <i>Church</i> .....	<b>3:30 p.m.</b>

"By God's grace, the members of Holy Cross Evangelical Lutheran Church will be a caring, vibrant diverse community of blessed believers, lovingly reaching out with the message of Jesus Christ." - *Vision Statement 2010*